

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated 03/25/2005. Claims 1-6 and 8 have been canceled. Claim 7 has been amended. Claim 7 remains in the application. Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Claim 7 now claims essentially every structural feature of the invention embodiment of Figure 2.

Sowards does not show an integral conduit that has an outlet outside the tank and below the tank back wall. Sowards does not disclose a hose extending from the integral conduit to a remote fan, as is now claimed. Sowards has an impractical internal fan and complicated-to-make exhaust conduit into the sewer line below the toilet.

Fernald, Sr. shows a hose and a remote fan, but the fan and conduit to the open space are at the top of the tank, a location which is unsightly. A key feature of Applicant's invention is that the exhaust system is completely hidden from view from common viewpoints. The outlet being below and behind the toilet, as is now claimed, enables that feature.

Wilson does not show the conduit having an open inlet above the water level in the tank, nor a fan remote from the toilet, nor an exhaust passageway exterior of the toilet. Wilson's fan is attached to the bottom of the tank, and like Sowards exhausts to a special passageway formed in the base of the toilet into the sewer line. Wilson's fan location is impractical.

There is nothing in any of the references that would suggest combining specific features of the references, and discarding other features, to come up with Applicant's combination as now set forth in Claim 7. In fact, each of the references teaches away from any variation of the structures in the reference, by teaching only the combination in that reference.

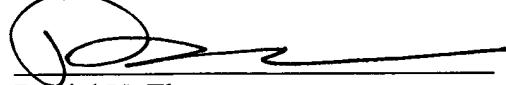
Claim 7 now appears to be in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for full allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner determine that an interview with the attorney in charge of this case would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues of patentability, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



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